



ALLEGHENY MISCELLANY

The official newsletter of Allegheny Mennonite Conference

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SAVE THE DATES:

NOVEMBER 7, 2026: AMC FALL ASSEMBLY, 9AM-
NOON ON ZOOM

JANUARY 15-17, 2027: WINTERVILLE AT
LAURELVILLE

MARCH 6, 2027: AMC SPRING ASSEMBLY, 9AM-
3PM, LOCATION TBD

JUY 30-AUGUST 1, 2027: AMC CELEBRATION
WEEKEND AT LAURELVILLE



CONSIDER GIVING TO "100 FOR \$10"
STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH COMMUNITY
TOGETHER

Start a recurring gift of \$10/month (or any amount you
choose) to sustain and strengthen the work of Allegheny
Mennonite Conference!

WHERE IS YOUR CONFERENCE MINISTER?

July 31-August 2--AMC Celebration
Weekend

August 15--West Philadelphia Mennonite
Fellowship

August 23--Christiansburg Mennonite

October 11--Pittsburgh Mennonite

October 17--Constituency Leadership
Council Online

November 7--AMC Fall Online Meeting

January 15-17--Winterville

January 22-24--Leadership Retreat

March 6--AMC Spring Meeting, location
TBD

April 15-17--Constituency Leadership
Council, Dallas, TX

April 19-22 AMC Pastor's Week at
Laurelville

July 6-11, 2027--Mennonite Convention in
Cincinnati, Ohio



CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: PHILIPPI MENNONITE CHURCH

Article by: Bob Wilkins



This has been an exciting year, so far, for the Philippi Mennonite Church in central West Virginia. The International Guest House (IGH) funds have begun to be shared with our neighbors and justice ministries within West Virginia. During the recent food insecurity crisis we provided gift cards to a neighborhood supermarket for those experiencing hunger issues. The funds also helped support the civil rights advocacy group working with LGBTQ rights. In addition to the shared funds we have also distributed the yard sign we are glad you are our neighbor throughout the community. (see picture)

We have just finished studying the book, *Courage to Enter the Song, A Mennonite Action Guide to Grassroots Organizing*, which helped us have a clearer understanding of the Gaza crisis. This was a continuation of other book studies we have done such as, *dear white peacemaker*, by Osheta Moore and *The Land is not Empty*, by Sarah Augustine.

For 25 years we had been a placement partner for the Service Adventure program but have now transitioned to other mission activities. As a result we recently sold the property that housed the program. Our community and church were blessed by the young adults that served over that time. We are about ready to start a discerning process regarding the proceeds of this sale.

And last, but certainly not least, is that we have also moved our worship space. We have sold the property that housed our place of worship since 1985. This was a lovely home that over the years, housed transient families, work teams, quest presenters, as well as, providing spiritual enrichment for attendees. As change is inevitable, it was no longer suitable for needs of the congregation.

The Philippi Mennonite Church has moved from its location on South Main Street in downtown Philippi to a new worship area at Battlers Knob, which was the former Alderson Broaddus University. It sits on a hill overlooking the Tygart River Valley.

The new location is 101 College Hill Drive, in the Hammer Center, lower level, Room 106. (see picture) It is adjacent to the WVU Extension Service suite. Our mailing address is Post Office Box 12, Philippi, WV 26416.

If you are passing through the area please join us on Sunday morning at 9:30.





STORIED LAND: DELEGATION TO PALESTINE, OCTOBER 13-27, 2027

Our two-week sojourn in Palestine will bring us into multifold contact with this land. We will visit the locations Amy Yoder McGloughlin writes about in her book, *Storied Land*, and pay attention to the connection between the biblical story and the stories of Palestinians today. Our itinerary will take us to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron and the South Hebron Hills. We will meet with local religious leaders, farmers, activists and community leaders to learn more about the land and our faith, and discover how deeply they are connected. The forming itinerary can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3SfE5IN>

This is a trip for anyone ages 18 and older that can manage the physical and emotional rigors of this trip. This includes stairs and steep hills, hearing traumatic stories and bearing witness to the occupation.

The cost of the trip is \$2,000 per person, not including airfare to and from the Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, costs between the airport and Jerusalem, and about half of the dinners. Trip costs cover lodging, most meals, ground transportation, sightseeing, and tips. This trip directly supports Palestinian organizations, businesses, and families who will provide presentations, housing, food, and other services. Given the current instabilities of the region, the trip may be canceled. Therefore, we require you to purchase refundable flights.

To secure your spot on the delegation, once you receive a confirmation from your delegation leaders, you must submit \$400. The remaining \$1,600 is due four weeks before the delegation embarks (September 12, 2027). Your trip costs will only be refunded if the delegation is cancelled.

Your delegation leaders are Amy Yoder McGloughlin and Eric Massanari. Amy is a Conference Minister with Allegheny Mennonite Conference and the Denominational Minister for Education with Mennonite Church USA. She travels to Palestine every year and has been a delegation leader to Palestine many times. Amy will provide logistics for the trip, using her deep relationships and knowledge of the area. Eric Massanari is a Conference Minister with Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference and a Spiritual Director. Eric will be providing spiritual support and grounding for us on this delegation. If you have questions about this delegation, contact Amy at amy.yoder.mcgoughlin@gmail.com

If you are interested in going, you can register here: <https://forms.gle/vTvRvgmhQzTlrTFr8>

SCOTSDALE MENNONITE CONGREGATION DISTRIBUTES IGH MONEY

For the past several years, Scottdale Mennonite Church has been prayerfully discerning how best to use the funds received from the sale of the International Guest House. Since 2021, the congregation has listened, discussed, and considered many meaningful possibilities, but no single idea seemed to rise to the surface.

In 2024, as the Gathering Place at Laurelville was being built, the congregation felt led to contribute \$10,000 to that building fund.

This spring, as part of our pastoral/congregational review process, we revisited the remaining ideas that had been suggested. Seeking the guidance of the Spirit, the congregation entered conversation, reflection, selection, and a final vote.

Through that process, we decided that the remaining \$20,000 will be shared equally with two organizations doing compassionate and practical work: Westmoreland Community

Action, to support its Street Outreach program for people experiencing homelessness in our area, and Undue Medical Debt, a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit that purchases medical debt for pennies on the dollar from providers like hospitals and physicians in order to erase debt for families burden with medical debt.

Westmoreland Community Action is also opening a new office just a block from SMC, creating new opportunities for connection and partnership close to home. Undue Medical Debt will notify by letter the people in our area whose medical debt is forgiven, offering relief in a tangible and hope filled way.



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Have something you want us to share in the Miscellany?

Email us at office@alleghenymennoniteconference.org

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